

Appl. No. PCT/GB2003/003080

Amdt. dated Jan 16, 2005

Preliminary amendment on entry to national phase in the United States of America

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1(original)

An electrical connector comprising a male part and a female part for engagement therewith; the male part comprising a first terminal having a circular cross section and a second terminal; the female part comprising engaging means to engage said terminals; wherein the male and female parts each comprise a magnetic portion adapted to attract the parts together to form an electrical connection.

Claim 2(original)

A connector as claimed in claim 1, comprising magnetic misconnection means to prevent the male and female parts from connecting in a non-concentric position.

Claim 3(original)

A connector as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least some of a magnetic field emitted from at least one of the magnetic portions extends beyond the magnetic misconnection means to attract the parts together to form an electrical connection.

Claim 4(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in claim 2 ~~or claim 3~~, wherein the magnetic misconnection means comprises a wall extending away from the magnetic portion of one of the male and female parts, the wall being adapted to prevent the male and female parts from connecting in a non-concentric position.

Claim 5(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of the male and female parts is attached to pendent means.

Claim 6(original)

A connector as claimed in claim 5, wherein one of the male and female parts is attached to pendent means and the other of the male and female parts comprises the wall.

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Claim 7(canceled)

Claim 8(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the female part has a projecting portion which is adapted to be received within the male part.

Claim 9(original)

A connector as claimed in claim 8, wherein the magnetic portion of the female part has a magnetic field which extends beyond the projecting portion to attract the parts together to form an electrical connection.

Claim 10(currently amended)

A connector as claimed claim 8 ~~or claim 9~~, wherein the projecting portion is adapted to have a degree of freedom to pivot within the male part.

Claim 11(canceled)

Claim 12(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 11~~, claim 8, wherein the projecting portion has at least one aperture to receive at least one of the male terminals.

Claim 13(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the first terminal is a neutral terminal and the second terminal is a live terminal and the engaging means of the female part comprise respective neutral and live terminals.

Claim 14(original)

A connector as claimed claim 13, wherein the neutral and live terminals of the female part are enclosed.

Claim 15(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in claim 13 ~~or 14~~, wherein the neutral and live terminals of at least one of the male and female parts are resilient.

Claim 16(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the male and female parts each include an earth terminal which are adapted to engage with each other.

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Claim 17(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in claim 16, wherein the male earth terminal is concentric with [[the]] at least one of the first and second terminals of the male part.

Claims 18-20(canceled)

Claim 21(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in claim [[20]] 17, wherein the terminals are adapted to engage in the order: earth, then neutral, then live when the male and female parts are being connected and are adapted to disengage in the order: live, then neutral, then earth when said parts are being disconnected.

Claim 22 and 23(canceled)

Claim 24(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the magnetic portions have a circular cross section.

Claim 25(original)

A connector as claimed in claim 24, wherein the magnetic portions are in the form of an annular ring.

Claims 26-28(canceled)

Claim 29(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein one of the male and female parts is also adapted for connection to a light bulb.

Claim 30(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the male and female parts are adapted to be attracted together to form an electrical connection when they are between 1cm and 30cm apart.

Claim 31(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1-29~~ claim 1, wherein the male and female parts are adapted to be attracted together to form an electrical connection when they are between 2cm and 30cm apart.

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Claim 32(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1-29~~ claim 1, wherein the male and female parts are adapted to be attracted together to form an electrical connection when they are at between 5cm and 30cm apart.

Claim 33(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of the parts comprises a tapered face adapted to guide the parts together.

Claim 34(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the first and second terminals are concentric.

Claims 35-40(canceled)

Claim 41(currently amended)

A connector as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the male and female parts are adapted to engage with each other in any relative rotational orientation.